City of Cincinnati



Date _May 11, 1987

To Mr. Dennis Meyer, Superintendent, Sanitation Division

From Karl R. Graham, Superintendent, Highway Maintenance Division

Copies to George Rowe, Director of Public Works; Thomas Young, City Engineer

Subject Laidlaw Yard

US EPA RECORDS CENTER REGION 5

The following will represent some of the highlights of our file information concerning the Laidlaw Avenue Yard.

On December 7, 1938, City Manager C.O. Sherrill transmitted a draft of an ordinance authorizing the City to enter a contract with several persons for the purpose of the acquisition of real estate required "for the Department of Public Works of the City of Cincinnati for dumping purposes". According to the memo the Waste Collection Division for a number of years used this property for the disposal of noncombustible wastes. The acquisition of the Laidlaw Avenue yard would also serve for "the establishment at some future date of a Highway Maintenance Yard in Bond Hill".

Apparently sometime prior to July, 1947, the Highway Maintenance Division began using the yard for our macadam section. At this time there are numerous reports of theft and vandalism at this site. It appears that some security measures were in place as there are reports identifying difficulties that CG&E had in reading the meter because there is mention of the necessity of providing a gate key to allow access to the yard. However, there is correspondence that indicated the meter reader could enter the yard through the railroad property if the gate was locked.

The Highway Maintenance Division ceased using this facility as an operating yard August, 1956, when a major part of the yard was abandoned to allow for the constuction of the Millcreek Expressway and to allow for a storage yard for the expressway contractor.

Apparently Highway Maintenance resumed using the location primarily as a salt storage/dispensing area sometime during or prior to 1960 until 1962, when the property was sold.

KRG:DBS:dk